In the Claims:

1.(Currently Amended)   A method for scheduling multicast transmissions in a multicast group comprising a plurality of stations, the method to communicate using a wireless local area network (WLAN), said method comprising the steps of:

transmitting a first group poll from at least one Quality of Service (QoS) Access Point (QAP) to each station in a the multicast group comprising a plurality of stations;

identifying an one active station in said multicast group having the authority to transmit; [and inactive stations among said plurality of stations;.]

transmitting a directed Contention Free (CF) poll from said QAP to said one active station;

transmitting an inbound QoS data frame from said one active station to said QAP; and

multicasting an outbound QoS data frame corresponding to said inbound QoS data frame from said QAP to said inactive stations stations in said multicast group.

2.(Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of identifying an active station among said plurality of stations identifies as said one active station a station that transmits, in response to said group poll, an inbound QoS data frame to said QAP.

3.(Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

transmitting a QoS null frame from said <u>one </u>active station to said QAP; and

transmitting a subsequent group poll from said QAP to each station in said plurality of stations.

4.(Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein said active station is a back-haul interface.

5.(Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein said step of identifying an active station comprises executing a back-off algorithm when a collision occurs when two of said stations respond to said first group poll with inbound QoS data frames.

6.(Currently Amended)   The method of claim <s>1</s><u>2</u>, wherein <s>said inactive</s> <u>stations of said multicast group which do no seek to transmit to stations </u>stations <u>in the group </u>do not respond to said first group poll.

7.(Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein said <u>inbound QoS </u>data <s>frames</s><u>frame</u> comprise <u>at least one </u>half duplex voice data <s>frames</s><u>frame</u>.

8.(Currently Amended)   A system of a <u>wireless local area network (WLAN)</u> used for scheduling multicast transmissions <u>to a multicast group including a plurality of stations</u>, the system comprising:

a <u>Quality of Service (QoS) Access Point (QAP)</u> ~~QAP~~ having a back-haul interface, an inbound interface and an outbound interface; and

a plurality of stations operatively connected to said QAP through one of said back-haul, inbound, or outbound interfaces;

said QAP operative to receive a single poll for a multicast group consisting of <u>at least one</u> ~~some~~ of said stations in said plurality of stations, and to transmit through said outbound interface or through said back-haul interface a group poll to said multicast group to identify ~~an~~ <u>one</u> active station <u>having the authority to transmit</u> among said plurality of stations <u>of said multicast group, transmit a directed Contention Free (CF) poll from said QAP to said one active station</u>.

9.(Original)   The system of claim 8, wherein said QAP comprises a group scheduler.

10.(Currently Amended) The system of claim 8, wherein said <u>one active station transmits</u> ~~multicast transmissions comprise~~ half duplex group voice transmissions <u>for the multicast group</u>.